

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET				
SUBJECT: (Optional)				
Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau				
FROM:		EXTENSION	NO.	
Chief, Operations Group			DATE	
			March 1988	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)		DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
		RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
1. C/Ops		25	APR 1988	
2.				
3. C/E&PS		25	Apr	
4. DD/FBIS				
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6.				
7. PO/RA		4/26		Don
8. SA/CD		4/26		EF
9. C/1067 C/PER 3				
10. C/AS		4/28		
11. C/B&F/AS				
12. DD/FBIS		2 May		B 4
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14. C/AG		4/5		me 8
15. Exec. Reg.				



4 April 1988
FBIS-3210-88

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau -- March 1988

I. GENERAL

1. Associate Editor [redacted] attended a 3-day Publication Procurement Workshop in Bangkok for local procurement officers located at U.S. Embassies in the Asia-Pacific region. Bureau Chief [redacted] was the guest speaker at the workshop, informing the participants of the uses FBIS made of their product. It proved to be very beneficial to the bureau, as the participants had never met one of their consumers before and had no idea what their product was used for. As a result of Andy's discussions at the workshop, the bureau is now placing all of its subscriptions on a calendar-year basis to simplify the renewal process. STAT

2. The bureau's first "ZZ" message in ages was filed 11 March when AFP reported the death of SRV Premier Pham Hung. The bureau immediately went on open speaker watch, alerted Bang Ping to possible tv passfeeds, began printing out the VNA point-to-point circuits, and geared up the facsimile machine to intercept any Nhan Dan press transmissions. Less than an hour later, Hanoi Domestic carried its first report on the death, a party communique, and from then until the 15th, when the old leader was finally laid to rest, monitors and editors were kept busy with communiques, condolence messages, official meetings, "solemn ceremonies," and TV passfeeds of the memorial services. Videotapes of the leadership lineup at two of the functions were forwarded to MOD. STAT

3. Isolationist Burma, whose controlled media is usually hard put to report anything of substance, made the headlines on three fronts. A fight between two Rangoon Institute of Technology students and local residents resulted in a week or riots, arson, and looting that was finally put down by government forces. No sooner had that ended when Rangoon reported that a fire that started in a kitchen had destroyed 2,096 buildings and killed 113 people in a township. In addition, the media carried a number of reports on the government's military offensive against the Karen insurgents. BBC passed on its "effusive thanks" to the bureau for its "speedy and comprehensive filing" on all three events.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. In addition to covering Pham Hung's death, the Vietnamese Unit was occupied from 14 March on by the military confrontation in the Spratly Archipelago between the PRC and SRV that left 3 Vietnamese freighters sunk, a number of Vietnamese killed, and 74 missing. No further clashes had been reported by month's end, but the bureau filed a number of official statements, diplomatic notes, press conferences, and editorials from the Vietnamese media as both sides continued claiming sovereignty over the islands.

2. The Thai-Lao border dispute was still in the negotiating stage by month's end, and it appears that it will go on indefinitely as the Lao refuse to yield on any points in the negotiations. While the Lao suffered more casualties than the Thais during the border war, they seem to be winning the propaganda war, with the Thai media claiming that they are trying to cause a rift between the Thai Foreign Ministry and military over the handling of the dispute.

B. Lateral Services

1. At the request of Headquarters and Nicosia, we attempted to monitor Saudi Arabian TV for pictures of the missiles it had recently acquired from the PRC. While we were able to view one of the two channels, no shots of the missiles were observed.

2. At the embassy in Nepal's request, both BBC and Bangkok checked out the Moscow Radio Peace and Progress casts in the various languages to Asia for the month for reports of Peace Corps volunteers in Nepal being responsible for the unrest taking place in the Darjeeling District of West Bengal. The search turned up nothing.

3. Requests for items were also received from the embassy DCM, Political Section, VOA, and USIS, as well as from the BBC.

C. Technical

1. The fabrication and installation of a shelf unit to house the main video monitoring equipment was started this reporting period and should be completed by 6 April.

2. Painting of the HF antenna towers at Bang Ping continues to progress at a fairly good pace with five towers being painted the past month.

3. New support poles for the HF antenna feed lines have been installed. A new configuration was used that allows us to eliminate three of the six poles which were originally installed.

4. New equipment received:

- A. Victor VPCII computer SN 612010826C
- B. Victor video monitor SN 4506623G
- C. Computer keyboard SN 61200134

D. Cruising

1. On 16 March the new Soviet satellite 95E Statsionar-14 was intercepted and has been observed carrying Moscow tv's second program Double-1 and Moscow radio's first program Orbita-1. Thus far the satellite is very unstable, drifting up to 12 degrees a day.

2. The PRC communications satellite 87.5E Chinasat-1 was intercepted on 23 March. Designed to meet the needs of domestic telephone communications and to transmit the various China Central Television channels, the satellite is supposed to officially begin operations in the near future.

3. The Analyst Dish was put on the 80 East satellite 11-15 March to cover possible passfeeds on the ceremonies surrounding Vietnamese Premier Pham Hung's death. Two passfeeds were observed and the tapes forwarded to Washington.

4. The Moscow and Beijing spring international frequency changes were observed and updated.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. During the month [redacted] was selected as the new STAT Thai/Lao monitor. We feel particularly fortunate in finding someone equally adept in both Lao and Thai. He has already received a medical and security clearance and will EOD on 2 May 1988.

2. On 10-11 March the semi-annual Embassy orientation program was held at the ACSA center. The bureau chief was given a 15-minute slot to explain the whys and wherefores of FBIS and the Bangkok Bureau.

B.. Visits

We welcomed the brief return of former Bureau members. Former Bureau Chief [redacted] visited the bureau on a combined R STAT and R and TDY, including a visit to Bang Ping and the seafood restaurant. Former editor [redacted] and his family broke away STAT from Jordan for a quick visit and reunion. STAT

[redacted]
Chief, Bangkok Bureau

BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR MARCH 1988

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	788,140
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	234,270
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,703

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	20,637 min.	22,035 min.	336.46 issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ROSET SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

INDIA

Delhi General Overseas Service in English	160		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	50,990		
Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi	160		
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	1,010		

INDONESIA

Jakarta TVRI Television Network in Indonesian	9,240		
Jakarta ANTARA in English		5,260	

MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay	2,940		
Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English		15,730	

PHILIPPINES

Quezon City RPN 9 Television in English	5,370		
Manila PNA in English		2,730	

SRI LANKA

Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English		13,210	
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BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATION
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IV. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	10,930	
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English		1,280
Sydney THE BULLETIN in English		0
Sydney THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English		2,000

BANGLADESH

Dhaka Overseas Service in English	1,090	
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	5,570	
Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali	460	
Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English		2,100
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali		410

BRUNEI

Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English		0
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BURMA

Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	18,740	
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English		310
Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese		0
Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese		0
Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese		0

CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	14,970	
Phnom Penh SPK in English		8,070
Phnom Penh SPK in French to KPL Vientiane		0
Phnom Penh SPK in French		6,840

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>CHINA</u>			
Beijing International Service in Bengali	430		
Beijing International Service in Burmese	0		
Beijing International Service in Indonesian	0		
Beijing International Service in Lao	0		
Beijing International Service in Thai	0		
Beijing International Service in Vietnamese	0		
Beijing in Cambodian to Cambodia	220		
Beijing in Hindi to India	390		
Beijing in Malay to Malaysia	0		
Beijing in Urdu to India and Pakistan	720		
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	7,930		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	5,110		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian	7,190		
(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	6,310		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese	0		
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		71,640	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	160		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	50,990		
Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi	160		
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	1,010		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		200	
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English			3,410
Delhi PATRIOT in English			2,170

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>INDIA (continued)</u>			
Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English			3,000
Madras DINAMALAR in Tamil			450
Bombay NAVBHARAT TIMES in Hindi			590
Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali			0
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta International Service in English	1,580		
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	5,720		
Jakarta TVRI Television Network in Indonesian	9,240		
Jakarta ANTARA in English		5,260	
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English			540
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English			0
Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian			0
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian			2,170
Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian			60
Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian			2,830
Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian			0
<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao	55,080		
Vientiane KPL in English		22,890	
Vientiane KPL in English to SPK Phnom Penh			0
Vientiane KPL in French to SPK Phnom Penh			0
Vientiane SPK in French to SPK Phnom Penh			0
Vientiane PASASON in Lao			1,190
Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao			0
<u>MALAYSIA</u>			
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	6,700		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>MALAYSIA (continued)</u>			
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	0		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	80		
Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay	2,940		
Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English		15,730	
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English			300
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English			0
Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay			3,240
Kuala Lumpur BERITA MINGGU in Malay			0
Kuala Lumpur MINGGUAN MALAYSIA in Malay			0
Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay			0
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Kathmandu External Service in English	390		
Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English			250
<u>NEW ZEALAND</u>			
Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English			0
Wellington THE EVENING POST in English			290
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Islamabad Oversea Service in English	880		
Islamabad Domestic Service in English	5,560		
Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu	19,350		
Islamabad Oversea Service in Urdu	150		
Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English			1,200
Karachi DAWN in English			0
Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu			260
Lahore JANG in Urdu			0
Karachi NAWA-I-WAQF in Urdu			1,660

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>PHILIPPINES</u>			
Quezon City RPN 9 Television in English	5,370		
Manila PNA in English		2,730	
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	980		
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			0
Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English			0
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	4,230		
Colombo Domestic Service in English	0		
Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil	170		
Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English		13,210	
Colombo DAILY NEWS in English			0
Colombo SUN in English			1,100
Colombo WEEKEND in English			800
Colombo VIRAKESARI in Tamil			320
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	3,810		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian	0		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	6,820		
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	340		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	6,250		
Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai	0		
Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai	560		
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			51,730
Bangkok THE NATION in English			47,480
Bangkok KHAO PHISSET in Thai			0

<u>BROAD-</u>	<u>PRESS</u>	<u>PUBLI-</u>
<u>CASTS</u>	<u>AGENCIES</u>	<u>CATION</u>

THAILAND (continued)

Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai		0
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai		2,540
Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai		0
Bangkok NAED NA in Thai		2,910
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai		3,830
Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai		0
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai		0
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai		2,480
Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese		1,350
Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese		0
Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO in Chinese		0

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Moscow International Service in Tamil	0
Moscow International Service in Vietnamese	120
Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh	180
Moscow in Burmese to Burma	580
Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia	3,380
Moscow in Hindi to India	0
Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia	0
Moscow in Lao to Laos	550
Moscow in Thai to Thailand	370
Moscow in Urdu to India	0
Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan	0
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Indonesian	0

UNITED KINGDOM

London BBC World Service in English	470
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	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in English	9,120		
Hanoi International Service in Cambodian	0		
Hanoi International Service in Thai	0		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	97,770		
Hanoi VNA in English		76,270	
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			11,310
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			7,440
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese			3,620
Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			17,560
Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese			0